

Nevada Operations Office News

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Update on Fire Reported at the Nevada Test Site

NORTH LAS VEGAS - At 3 p.m. on Friday, August 16 a brush fire was reported in a remote north-central area of the Nevada Test Site (NTS). Firefighters from the Nevada Test Site, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forrest Service are on scene and continue to fight the fire that has burned 700 to 1,000 acres. The BLM is also providing helicopter support with water drops. U.S. Air Force provided helicopter air support dropping water yesterday and earlier today. Pahrump Valley Fire and Rescue is providing support at the NTS base fire station in Mercury, Nevada. The fire is considered to be 65 percent contained. The active portion of the fire consists of smoldering range land, brush, and grasses. Fire crews are monitoring progress of the fire and extinguishing flareups as they occur.

Kathleen Carlson, Manager of the Nevada Operations Office, expressed her appreciation for the support from all of the organizations responding to a request for mutual aid in fighting the fire. "The crews are doing a great job of working together to maintain control of this fire," commented Carlson as she visited the scene earlier today. "While no major facilities or buildings are in jeopardy, we want to make sure this fire does not spread any further and remains in control."

There have been no reported injuries and all personnel working at the site have been accounted for. There has been no reported damage to any major buildings or facilities, however some wooden power poles have been damaged and are being replaced. The cause of the fire is unknown.